<u>Heather M. Forte</u> 812 Tamiami Trail # 3 Port Charlotte, Florida 33953

January 8, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I am writing to express my support of the recent settlement between the federal government and Microsoft. I genuinely hope that no further action is being considered at the federal level.

Taking into account the terms of the agreement, Microsoft has agreed to document and disclose for use by its competitors various interfaces that are internal to Windows' operating system products. This is a first in an antitrust settlement. Microsoft has also agreed to make available to its competitors, on reasonable and non-discriminatory terms, any protocols used by Windows' operating system products when they interact with programs of non-Microsoft origin.

With the many terms of the agreement, I feel that pursuing any further litigation would be a waste of time and money.

Sincerely,

Heather M. Forte